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NO. 1 OF 2, WOMEN'S BUILDING
SHIBA PARK, TOKYO
JAPAN

Members climbing Mount Fuji.

Members worshipping the Grand Shrine of Ise
from their distant native place.

Members reading in chorus the Emperor Meiji's poems.

Members practising in their sewing class.

H. I. H. the Crown Prince's (present His Majesty the Emperor) Message given to the Young men and Women of the Empire in 1920.

The foundation of the prosperity of the country greatly depends upon the culture of its young people. I desire, therefore, that you all take into consideration the conditions at home and abroad, and discharge your duties for the fulfilment of the expected objects with your best efforts and cooperation.

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Official instructions were given by the Home Department and Department of Education in November of 1926—the fifteenth year of the Taisho era, to the prefectural governments, to promote the advancement of the organizations of young women of this country; the instructions run as follows:—

Although the estalishment of the Young Women's Associations has become general throughout the country of late, and their work is gradually bearing fruit, it is most urgent that the spread of this movement should be encouraged more. Further, the policy which the Associations are to follow should be made clear for the sound development of these organizations.

I believe that the Young Women's Association is an organ for the culture of young women, whose real object should be, following the gracious message, to enable them to enhance their personality, fostering their good qualities as members of the sound nation to which they belong and enable them more fully to carry out their duties as women. Although there may of course be various ways for their guidance and encouragement, special attention should be paid to the following items:—

1. In obedience to the principles of loyalty and filial piety, great effort should be made for the cultivation of feminine virtues.

2. Qualities necessary for life should be cultivated, and customs and habits of industry and frugality should be encouraged.

3. Great attention to physical education and the promotion of health should be aimed at.

4. In order to improve their taste, their sentiments should be trained.

5. For their contribution to social welfare a cooperative spirit should be cultivated.

The conditions at home and abroad at present make it necessary for young women's organizations to promote their work and activities. Those who are in charge of these organizations should well consider the merits of the beautiful customs and manners kept among us from ancient times, take in the ever-progressing general trends of things and give them proper encouragement and guidance, thereby leaving nothing to be desired for the achievement of the objects of the Young Women's Organization.

MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
MINISTER OF EDUCATION

November 11, 1926.

General Outline of the Federation of Young Women's Associations of Japan.

I. History and Present Conditions.

The Young Girls' Society in rural districts made its first appearance towards the end of the Meiji era as an organ for the culture of young women. This movement gradually spread throughout the country, and the Central Association of the Young Girls' Societies, which is the central organ for mutual communication and assistance of these organizations, was established in 1918.

In 1920, His Majesty the Emperor (the then Crown Prince) graciously issued His august command in which His Imperial Majesty pointed out the way that young people should proceed. Again, in 1925, an Imperial donation was made to the bodies of the Youth of the whole country. The government and the people gave expressions of boundless joy at these events, and when the Ministers of Home and of Education gave instructions concerning the spread and encouragement of the Young Women's Association, and showed the lines to be followed by them, the organization of prefectural federations was increasingly promoted, and the necessity of the stronger central organ of the whole country was recognized. Thereupon, on the twenty-ninth of April 1927, the Central Association of Young Girls' Societies was

dissolved, and at the same time The Federation of Young Women's Associations of Japan was established.

At first there were only 22 prefectural federations affiliated with the central organization, and the number of members was less than 700,000. Today, however, ten years later, we are in such a flourishing condition that we have all the associations in Japan proper united with us, and the number of the organizations, which take a city, town, village or an elementary school district as a unit, is 15,022 with 1,568,582 members.

II. The Object of the Federation.

"Fostering mutual communication and assistance among the Young Women's Associations of the whole country, and promoting the progress and development of these organizations are taken as the objects of this Federation." This is what is shown as the object of this Federation in its constitution. By achieving this object the enrichment and development of all the member organizations of the whole country are encouraged, and whereby is raised the culture of young women—girls from the graduatuing age at the elementary school to their marriage, or to when the girls are 25 years of age.

In the advancement of the culture of young women, what is the landmark for the laca-l associ ations, and at the same time in one sense what designates the methods to be followed by them in their work and activities are the instructions given by the Ministers of Home and of Education. The

instructions are given on the front page of this booklet.

III. The Organization of the Federation.

Members are: –

1. Those who completed compulsory education and not yet married;
2. Those who have completed compulsory education and are under 25 years of age.

THE FEDERATION OF YOUNG WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS OF JAPAN

Prefectural Federation of Young Women's Assosciations (Affiliated Bodies) ....

County or City Young Women's Association ....

Factory or Firm Young Women's Association (Unit Body) | School District Young Women's Association (Unit Body) | Town or Village Young Women's Association (Unit Body) .....

Branch or squad ....

Notes: —

1. Several branches or squads are united into so-called unit organizations in administrative boundaries of towns or villages. The number of such unit organizations is more than 15,000.
2. These unit organizations unite and become County or City Young Women's Associations and are indirectly affiliated to the Prefectural Federation of Young Women's Associations. Sometimes unit organizations are directly united with the Prefectural Federation,

though they are very few in number.

3. There are 48 prefectural organizations in the whole country, and they all combine into the Federation of Young Women's Associations of Japan.
4. In all the cities, towns, and villages of this country there are one or more Young Women's Associations without exception and all the young women in the said years of age join the organization except a very few special ones.

IV. The Work and Activities of the Federation.

A. Work and activities which are put into effect are as follows :—

1. Opening conferences, courses of study, etc.;
   Publishing books and "Danpo", an organ of the Federation;
   Dispatching or recommending lecturers;
   Investigation of various problems;
   Promoting various kinds of work to which we give encouragement;
   Holding exhibitions such as an exhibition of articles produced as subsidiary work by young people, etc.;
   Committees on various questions are created, and the study of those questions is carried on;
   The management of the Institute of Domestic Science;
   Carrying out the public life movement;
   Holding various commemoration ceremonies;
   Relief work of various kinds;
   Etc.....

2. Work and activities to which we ought to pay or to which we wish to pay the greatest attention.

Provisions for the clarification of the national polity (fundamental national characters);

Putting into operation the system of training young women's qualifications indispensable in their daily life, such as sewing, cooking, nursing, flower-arrangement, etc.;

A movement for the physical training of young women.

B. The guiding principles and provided works to which special attention is paid by the Young Women's Associations throughout the country.

1. Guiding principles:—

To be a woman, gentle and virtuous, obedient to the principles of loyalty and filial piety;

To be a woman of simplicity and frugality, avoiding vanity;

To be a woman who pays great attention to the study of science and has knowledge necessary for her everyday life;

To be a woman who is sound and healthy, and has a refined taste;

To be a woman who understands the principles of public life and can contribute to the welfare of society;

To be a woman who loves her native place and has the harmonious and cooperative spirit.

2. What is provided by the Association.

a. The work and activities put into effect on the side of intellectual education.

The work is carried on by such means as lectures, short courses, literary exercises, meetings for self-culture, study circles, monthly meetings, exhibitions, reading circles, education by correspondence, etc. in connection with

Moral education,	Economy,
Manners,	Tea ceremony,
Artificial flowers,	Cooking,
Sewing,	Embroidery,
Knitting,	The cares of babies,
Nursing,	Washing,
Utilizing waste products,	Massage,
Etc.	

b. For the education on the moral side the following activities are carried on:—

Attending the ceremony of the four grand national holidays;

Having the honour of seeing the Imperial palace, detached palaces, etc.;

Visiting shrines and temples;

Inquiring after the families of those who have joined the army or navy;

Publicly commending those who have rendered good services for the association;

Holding parties for the consolation and respect of the aged;

Carrying into effect the appreciation of time, reform of manners, and the protection of children;

Practising one good deed every day;

Holding meetings to express gratitude in honour of the deserving;

Holding meetings for religious talks and sermons;
Giving instruction papers to those who get married, or sending gifts to those whose good services deserve commendation;
Etc.....

C. What is to be carried out on the side of physical education. They are as follows:--

Althletic meetings; Gymnastics;
Travelling; Mountain-climbing;
Early riser's parties; Lawn tennis and games;
Swimming; Ping-pong;
Playing with battledore and shuttlecock;
Physical examination; Medical examination;
Diffusion of sanitary ideas;
Basket-ball and dead-ball;
Etc.

D. Those to be done for public good.

Joint operation of members;
Propaganda against fire;
Cleaning and sweeping the precincts of shrines and temples;
Street-sweeping;
Canvassing for contributions, etc;
Lending an umbrella when people are suddenly caught in the rain;
Charitable works;
Encouraging frugality and saving;
Giving relief to afflicted people;
Charity-bazaars; Etc.

E. What we observe in the way of industry.

Exhibition of cocoons,
Inspection tour of agriuctural occupations;

Parties for trial gardening,
Study of subsidiary occupations;
Becoming a member of an industrial association;
Managing farms and seed-plots;
Practical training in household duties;
Practical training in removing stains;
Exterminating noxious insects;
Silk culture; Poultry-raising;
Live stock-breeding; Fish farming;
Etc.

F. For amusement and taste the following parties or other activities are held:—

Concerts of various kinds;
Tournaments for arts in a locality;
The Doll's Festival;
Flower arrangement parties;
Parties for the "Haiku" and "Waka";
Parties to which members have to bring one dish of food each for a picnic and good time;
Conversation parties; Film parties;
"Karuta" tournament; Social tea-parties;
Cherry-viewing parties;
Parties for chestnut gathering;
Hiking; The "Bon" dancing;
Distributing prizes by drawing lots;
Etc.

V. Relations of the Young Women's Association with the Youths' School and the Women's Society.

There is the Youths' School which has a similar object to the Young Woman's Association, and they

are in a relation mutually dependant. The student of the school is concurrently a member of the Association on the other hand. Therefore, it can be said that the Association takes in widely the students of the Youths' school and others, and is in a position to make good efforts in giving better culture to all young women. Statistics shows that some 41 per cent of the members of the Young Women's Association are studying in the Youths' School. Further, as a sister organization we have the Women's Society. When a young woman retires from the Association on marriage, she becomes a member of the Women's Society and endeavours to cultivate both mind and body as a member of the Society. Its central organ is the Federation of the Women's Societies of Japan, which has its office in the same building where we have ours, the Women's Building. We are mutually related and helping each other, and are displaying our functions as the central organ for the culture of the fair sex in Japan.

VI. Expenditure and assets.

Sum total of expenditure of all Young Women's Associations of this country.....¥1,500,000

Total amount of assets of all Young Women's Associations of Japan ¥1,200,000

VII. Officers.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors.....
.....Mrs. Yayoi Yoshioka.

Directors 20

VIII. Summary Table.

Name and Address	THE FEDERATION OF YOUNG WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS OF JAPAN No. 1 of 12, Shiba Park, Tokyo, Japan.	
Chairman of Directors	Mrs. Yayoi Yoshioka.	
Object and Activities	Object	The object of this Association is to plan and encourage the cooperation of local bodies and associations, and to promote their activities.
	Activities	1. Publishing documents, bulletins, and books. 2. Holding training courses, public lectures, and carrying on scientific researches. 3. Recommendation and dispatch of lecturers. 4. Investigation about the culture and education of young women. 5. Other necessary activities.
No. of members	2,000,000.	
Local Associations and Single Corps	L. A.	48 Prefectural Organizations are there, one association being established in each of Hokkaido, 3 urban prefectures and 43 prefectures, as well as in Saghalien.
	S. C.	15,000

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